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PRESIDENT BUSH SENDS MESSAGE TO MARK MARCONI CENTENNIAL; RADIO AMATEURS WILL BROADCAST IT WORLDWIDE SATURDAY

A special message from President George W. Bush, marking the centennial of Marconi's first transatlantic wireless message, will be broadcast around the world from Cape Cod by radio amateurs next Saturday, January 18.

The transmission of the President's text message, at 7:30 p.m. EST, will occur exactly 100 years from the date when Italian inventor Guglielmo Marconi sent a similar greeting from then-President Theodore Roosevelt to Britain's King Edward VII.

"Having the President's involvement in the Marconi Centennial testifies to its significance in U.S. history," said Cape Cod National Seashore Superintendent Maria Burks. "We are thrilled and honored to know that his message will cap an extraordinary day of special events."

The National Park Service at Cape Cod National Seashore is celebrating Marconi Day with a daylong series of public events at the Marconi Site in South Wellfleet, Massachusetts and other park venues. (Go to www.nps.gov/caco for a complete events calendar.)

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Burks credits members of the Marconi Radio Club for working diligently with the White House to obtain the presidential message. "Bob Doherty, the club president, felt the President's involvement was essential to the success of the broadcast events," she said.

The Marconi Radio Club, W1AA, and the Marconi Cape Cod Radio Club, KM1CC, working in partnership with the Seashore, are operating a wireless station through Sunday, January 19 at the former Coast Guard station at Coast Guard Beach in Eastham, Massachusetts. From 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day, the public is able to tour the station, listen to voice and Morse code discussions with other radio operators around the world, and learn about wireless technology and the significance of Marconi's achievement. The station will be open until 9:00 p.m. Saturday.

The message from President Bush will be sent over the air at 7:30, 8:30 and 9:30 p.m. Saturday on the following short wave radio frequencies: 3.885 (AM), 7.260 lower sideband, and 14.260 upper sideband. Several local radio stations may also broadcast the message. It may also be heard at 7, 8 and 9 p.m. in Morse code on: 3.539, 7.039 and 14.039.

For further information, please contact Chip Bishop at 508 398-1997 or at chip@chipbishop.com.